



MEDIA AVAILABILITY - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –Thursday, August 25, 2016

**ENGLANDER TO SUBMIT EMERGENCY MOTION REGARDING THE SALE OF
“SPICE” DRUG RESPONSIBLE FOR OVER 50 OVERDOSES ON SKID ROW**

LOS ANGELES— Councilmember Mitchell Englander, Chair of the Public Safety Committee, will submit an emergency motion to the Los Angeles City Council tomorrow regarding the use of synthetic cannabinoids, commonly referred to as “spice.”

The use of synthetic cannabinoids, a type of manufactured drug that is sprayed onto plant material and smoked like a cigarette or marijuana, has significantly increased in the City of Los Angeles over recent months. This drug is far less expensive and far more potent than natural marijuana and can often cause serious side effects, such as loss of consciousness, paranoia, tachycardia and psychotic episodes.

Over recent months, there have been numerous overdoses related to the use of synthetic cannabinoids among the homeless population in Skid Row, with two mass overdoses in the area last week that resulted in over fifty people being transported to the hospital.

WHO: Councilmember Mitchell Englander

WHEN: TOMORROW, Friday, August 26, 2016 at 10:00 AM

**WHERE: Los Angeles City Hall
John Ferraro Council Chamber, Room 340
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles**

MEDIA CONTACT:
Stephanie Saporito
Communications Director
Cell (213) 804-5811
Email: Stephanie.Saporito@lacity.org

###